Well here we are again, all too quickly it's nearly Christmas. And...such a positive year for 101fm it has been!
Firstly, we had a very successful Radiothon which saw us raise enough money to refurbish Studio A.
Thank you to all the people who assisted Sefton in preparing the Studio which was finished in record time due to the efforts of Cyril Callaghan, Bob Ballantyne and the terrific Contractors (Quiet Please & Savelect) who carried out the work.
Thanks also to the Presenters for your patience whilst Studio A was “out of action”.
It looks like we'll have some money left over to install new carpet in Reception and the hallway.

Congratulations must go to our Vice President Sefton Madsen on being a Finalist in the CBAA Technical Excellence Awards which took place on December 11th.
We also thank Sefton for his great work in the preparation of our Licence Renewal application. The really good news is we have had it renewed for another five years!

On a very sad note, we lost one of our Members, Bruce Walker, who was part of the 101fm Family for such a long time.
Our thoughts also go out to our Treasurer, John Schubert who is not in the best of health - we all wish him well.

Where would we be without our Reception and Admin Team?
Thanks to Yvonne Carter, Lorraine Callister, Liz O'Brien, Lyn Hughes, and our new ladies, Anne Kilroy, Kim Rohweder, and Lorraine Sydes.
On behalf of Elaine and myself, please have a great festive season at this Christmastime.

Alan Casonati
President Radio Logan 101fm
I am very pleased to report that we have successfully refurbished Studio A thanks to the generous support of our sponsors and listeners at our Radiothon. The two studios look amazing and really lift the image of the station.

We are also pleased to have some money remaining from the Radiothon after paying for Studio A so we are going to use it to replace the floor coverings in the reception and hallway areas. This again will make a much more pleasant working environment.

In November the annual CBAA conference was held at the Gold Coast. I represented the station at this event and gained a great deal of knowledge regarding where the community broadcasting sector is moving in the coming years. 101FM was one of the finalists in the “Technical Excellence” award but was unsuccessful in taking out this award. We are very pleased to be one of the four finalists for this prestigious award.

In September we sent our licence renewal application in which must be submitted every five years. There was a great deal of work in getting all the information together, but we have been advised that our renewal has been approved. The ACMA did give feedback regarding some changes they require at 101FM. These include changes to the Constitution and attracting more members to the station. After a good holiday break, we will be addressing these matters.

Glenda and I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas and to enjoy the time over the holidays with family and friends.
The Legendary 2017 Christmas Party!
In the early 70’s, I was one of the lucky ones to make it to the final 12 of Radio School that was held at the 4BH studios in Brisbane.

60 young people, full of dreams of becoming a “DJ” applied for what would become a full on 6-month course, but one by one they were whittled down because they “didn’t cut it” for radio.

Our trainer Ben was not only a great broadcaster in his own rights, but also an excellent coach that we, the final 12, hung on his every word as he told us what to expect in the great big World of Radio that we were preparing to enter.

One of his sayings was “Nothing to Say...Play”, meaning that we don’t have to talk for the sake of talking. Let the music do that for you.

So... the next time you think about just doing a time call between songs for something to say...

Remember those 4 words. After all, it really is “All about the Music”

Graham Tienan
Music Director 101FM
An important aspect of operating a radio station is having an accurate time display not only for time calls but accurate time is needed to time into the news. Our news service is delivered via satellite and it starts at a predetermined time. The announcer needs to run an announcement before the news so the time when the news is to start must be known accurately.

In the past we have used clocks which have a tendency to drift slightly during the week. They therefore were regularly reset manually. To overcome this problem I constructed digital clocks that synchronise to the network time servers on the network.

These new clocks use an Arduino SBC (Small Board Computer) with an ethernet shield or board that connects to the network which periodically updates the internal battery backup real time clock. This small board computer then stores the time and displays this time on a display of six seven segment LED displays. The SBC only writes to one of the six digits at a time before writing to the next digit. The cycling through the six digits one at a time occurs so quickly that we do not see the flicker. This uses the human eyes persistence of vision in the same way that old TVs set displayed the pictures.

The SBC used for the clock does not have sufficient outputs to operate all the seven segment displays plus the switches to enable each of the digits. By using ICs (Integrated Circuit) called shift registers only three SBC outputs can control the 13 outputs that otherwise would be needed (7 segment displays plus 6 for the digits).

The program language used to program the SBC is a modified version of the C programming language.

Therefore the small digital clock now used in our studios and on the outside broadcast desk contains as shown above a SBC, Ethernet connection, battery backup real time clock, shift registers and 7 segment LED displays all to give accurate time for our announcers. This is how we get accurate time for our time announcements and be ready of the news at the right time.
We are, once again, reaching the end of yet another exciting year for Logan City’s 101FM.

Sponsorship revenue has again increased over the year with many client sales also being renewed, together with yet another successful year of Outside Broadcasts.

A huge part of our success is due to our active Volunteers. Your contribution and participation are invaluable, and I sincerely thank you for all of your support over the past year.

Part of my role includes providing a supervising management line for sales, programming, production and technical personnel whilst offering advice on other matters pertaining to the good operation of the Station.

Special thanks must go the Management Committee headed by our President Alan Casonati for allowing me the autonomy to carry out those duties. I look forward to the same spirit in 2018 to enable us maintain excellence in all our future endeavours.

As we welcome the Christmas holidays and end-of-year season festivities, I’d like to wish all our business sponsors, members, supporters and loyal listeners a safe and peaceful Christmas.

I look forward to the same spirit in 2018 to enable us to maintain excellence in all our future endeavours.

*Merry Christmas everyone!*
The Funnies

WELL IT'S 1 FOR THE MONEY, 2 FOR THE SHOW, 3 TO GET READY

4 FOR SALES, 5 FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE, OR PRESS 6 TO HEAR THESE OPTIONS AGAIN

"My wife left me, my dog bit me, and my cell phone died."

sell me fries, sell me sweet little fries
Merry Christmas from all the Team at 101fm.

Stu Robertson
Newsletter Art & Concept Editor